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patients of St. John's Hospital had been "dissatisfied" with Father DuBay because of "his excessive personal publicity." As chaplain of St. John's, Father DuBay operated within Monsignor O'Flaherty's parish.

A spokesman for Father DuBay said he had been "expecting the ax to fall."

"The favorite device of the Cardinal is to transfer priests who don't agree with his policies," he declared.

Father DuBay has been attempting to organize the nation's 58,000 priests into an American federation of priests to strive for what he terms "professional freedom."

Ironically, Father DuBay, who has been campaigning for what he called a "professional salary" for priests, will take a pay cut of from \$175 to \$135 a month in his new job.

A spokesman for the chancery said that neither the chancery nor Cardinal McIntyre would formally reply to Father DuBay's statement favoring a priests' union because "they do not deserve a serious answer."

When asked whether Father DuBay would in fact take a pay cut, Monsignor O'Flaherty said: "Father DuBay is not taking a job in a store. His is a priestly vocation."

Father DuBay this week said he had formed the embryo of two locals of his new union. The

union, he said, would bargain for the establishment of grievance machinery within the church, a feature policy to guarantee a hearing before a priest can be suspended, an end to "arbitrary and oppressive" transfers by chancery officials and freedom of residence for priests.

Senator Smith Joins Panel

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23 (AP) — The appointment of Senator Margaret Chase Smith, Republican of Maine, to the Senate panel that keeps watch on the Central Intelligence Agency was announced today. Senator Richard B. Russell, Democrat of Georgia who is chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said Senator Smith would join ranking members of that group and the Senate Appropriations Committee in the secret inquiries.

Russians on L.I. Report Theft

Special to The New York Times
GLEN COVE, L. I., Feb. 23 — The Soviet Union complained to the local police today that 15 quarts of motor oil had been stolen from Killenworth, its 36-acre estate here. Yevgeny N. Alekshin, First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy, said that thieves had cut through a chain-link fence yesterday and broken the lock on an old barn to get at the motor oil.

BLACK KEEPS BAN ON TEXAS POLL TAX

Heartened Liberals to Push Big Drive for Voters

By MARTIN WALDEON
Special to The New York Times

AUSTIN, Tex., Feb. 23 — Justice Hugo L. Black ruled today in Washington to allow a court-ordered suspension of the Texas poll tax to stand, a decision that could have a decisive effect on Texas elections this year.

A top Texas labor leader said labor groups in the state would try to register an additional one million "liberal" voters during a special 15-day registration period ordered this week by the State Legislature. About 375,000 of the state's two million voters now are considered liberal.

"We have been on the telephone all day, organizing our people in the major population areas," said Roy Evans, secretary-treasurer of the Texas American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations. He said the Texas

A.F.L.-C.I.O. would concentrate its efforts in "labor and minority group precincts."

Senate Race This Year

Texas will elect a Senator and 23 Representatives in addition to a Governor and a reapportioned Legislature this year. A majority of Texans lives in the eastern part of the state where labor is strongest.

A three-judge Federal Court ruled on Feb. 9 that the Texas poll tax was unconstitutional, but Texas Attorney General Waggoner Carr has appealed the decision. A group of Austin Republicans had asked Justice Black to suspend the three-judge court ruling pending this appeal. In Washington today, Justice Black declined without comment to do so.

In anticipation of Justice Black's action, the State Legislature, in its special session, which ended yesterday, passed a law providing a 15-day period in March for registration of adults who did not pay their 1966 poll taxes by the Jan. 31 deadline. The voters registered during this 15-day period could not have voted this year if Justice Black had stayed the three-judge ruling pending its appeal.

Texas to Free Flee

About two million people are estimated to have paid their poll taxes before the Jan. 31 dead-

line. Mr. Evans said another 4-million adults did not but now become eligible to vote if they can be registered.

Gov. John Connally, who is running for re-election and generally is not supported by labor, said the state would push its appeal of the court ruling outlawing the poll tax.

In addition to providing for the special 15-day registration period, the Legislature yesterday passed an annual voter registration plan advocated by Governor Connally. Under it, Texans would have to register by Jan. 31 of each year to vote in that year's election.

The Governor called it "an honest, fair and responsible bill calculated to encourage the right to vote."

Many liberal legislators assailed the plan as "being designed to keep the number of voters down."

Poll Requirement Abolished

MONTPELIER, Vt., Feb. 23 (AP) — Gov. Philip H. Hoff signed today the bill abolishing payment of the poll tax as a requirement for voting in local elections. The law will not abolish the poll tax itself, which amounts to as much as \$30 for some voters.

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